(b) to (e) The specific facts from the Government of Maharashtra are not available. However, under the Prevention of Food Adulteration Act, 1954, limits for different pesticides in different foods have been prescribed and action in cases where the limits of different pesticides are found in excess, are taken in accordance with the provisions of the PFA Act, 1954 and PFA Rules, 1955.

Blood Banks in Delhi

861. SHRI SURESH KALMADI : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) what is the number of blood banks, commercial and otherwise, functioning in Delhi ;

(b) whether these blood banks are strictly following measures and precautions as required by regulations ; and

(c) if not, what steps Government propose to take to remedy the situation ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) There are 26 Blood Banks in Delhi under various agencies. Government 14, Voluntary 1, Private Hospitals 6 and Commercial 5.

(b) and (c) A joint meeting of zonal blood testing centres and blood banks is being called by the Delhi Administration to work out uniform standardised procedures for handling, labelling and transportation of blood samples.

All Blood Banks, whether in the Government or private Sector have to be licenced by the respective Drug Control Administration after inspection by the State. However, Drug Controller (India) has advised State Drug Controllers to inspect blood banks alongwith the officials of Central Drug Control Organisation and blood bank experts, as far as possible.

The existing provisions relating to Blood Banks under the Drugs and Cosmetics Rules specify about the blood donor room, equipments, blood collection procedures, storage of blood including staff and accommodation, labelling etc. Since the existing provision deals mainly with physical requirements, it has been proposed to incorporate a new comprehensive draft amendment which includes testing procedures of blood and blood products, quality control on reagents, qualifications and experience for blood bank personnel, preserving specimen sample of each unit of blood in a pilot tube for 72 hours after transfusion and maintenance of records etc. This amendment also includes joint inspection by Central and State Drug Inspectors prior to grant of licence. The minimum requirements for grant of license to manufacture blood components, like premises, equipments, personnel, testing facilities, storage etc. have been added. The proposed amendment have been published in the Gazette of India on 26th March, 1992 for public comments before the final notification is issued.

Setting Up of Hospitals by Foreigners

862. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that during the Prime Minister's recent visit to the U.S.A. the businessmen there had offered to set up hospitals in India ; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and the reaction of Government thereto ?

THE MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI ARJUN SINGH) : (a) and (b) According to information received from the Prime Minister's Office, no firm offer from Businessmen of USA has been received to set up Hospitals in India.

Foreign Assistance for Family Planning Programme

863. SHRI R. T. GOPALAN : Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state :

(a) whether Government have received any foreign assistance for implementing the Family Planning Programmes ;